

MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI, CERCETĂRII ȘI INOVĂRII
OLIMPIADA NAȚIONALĂ DE LIMBA ENGLEZĂ
FEBRUARIE 2009
CLASA A XI-A

Varianta I

Subject I

Starting from the excerpt below, write an opinion essay on: “Too much emphasis is placed on social expectations and constraints from which it proves impossible to escape.” Use about 350 words.

Mr. Doran was very anxious indeed this Sunday morning. He had made two attempts to shave but his hand had been so unsteady that he had been obliged to desist. Three days' reddish beard fringed his jaws and every two or three minutes a mist gathered on his glasses so that he had to take them off and polish them with his pocket-handkerchief. The recollection of his confession of the night before was a cause of acute pain to him; the priest had drawn out every ridiculous detail of the affair and in the end had so magnified his sin that he was almost thankful at being afforded a loophole of reparation. The harm was done. What could he do now but marry her or run away? He could not brazen it out. The affair would be sure to be talked of and his employer would be certain to hear of it. Dublin is such a small city: everyone knows everyone else's business. He felt his heart leap warmly in his throat as he heard in his excited imagination old Mr. Leonard calling out in his rasping voice: "Send Mr. Doran here, please." (James Joyce "The Boarding House")

50p

Subject II

You see this announcement in an English language magazine

Family Life in the 21st Century

We are planning to publish a series of articles on the role of family life in contemporary society . We would like you, our readers, to write an article (200-220 words) on the importance of family life in shaping young people's character, addressing the following questions:

- How important is family life for you?
- Is due emphasis placed on family life nowadays?

Write your article for this magazine.

25 p

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Subject III (25 points)

A. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use the word given without changing it. (10 points)

1. If we delay too long, we are unlikely to clinch the deal. **(less)**
The to clinch the deal.
2. This number should not be rung except in cases of emergency. **(call)**
Only this number.
3. Jack went to the doctor who said he had chicken pox. **(suffering)**
Jack went to the doctor who..... chicken pox.
4. We missed the train because we arrived at the station late. **(by)**
The trainwe arrived at the station.
5. Could I ask you if you'd mind looking after my dog while I'm away? **(wondering)**
Iwilling to look after my dog while I'm away?

B. Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage. Use only one word in each space. (10 points)

We have all seen (1).....documentary or other following the fortunes of a herd of elephants and cannot fail to have been struck by the uniqueness of the beast. (2)it uses its trunk to pull up a (3)of grass to eat may not seem that remarkable but (4) is often not recognised is just how versatile this appendage is. It employs (5) and everyone of the sixty thousand muscles in its two-metre length to perform (6) delicate tasks as removing thorns or gripping a thin stick (7)firmly, without breaking it, (8)only another elephant can pull it away. The trunk also serves (9) a snorkel as its owner swims for miles (10)a submarine.

C. Read the text below and use the word given in capital on the right to form words that fit in the gaps. The words in capitals are given in the order you need to use them. (10 points)

The crime rate statistics continue to make depressing reading.

True, there has been a slight fall in the number of burglaries

over the past twelve months, but this is more than made up

for by a (1) leap in the cases of street muggings and

aggravated assaults. (2) Jonathan Steadman, 48,

(3) by a department of the Metropolitan Police, makes

the point: 'What we are seeing is a result of better home (4)

systems, burglar alarms, (5) locks, etc.

(1) SUBSTANCE

(2) CRIME

(3) EMPLOY

(4) SECURE

(5) SAFE

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